

# NEWS RELEASE

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Anjali Julka  
Phone: 312.793.9635

Vicki Niederhofer  
Phone: 618.277.8491

## Unemployment Rates up in Most Metro Areas *Job Growth Continues to Lag*

### Not Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rates

Metropolitan Area	November 2015	November 2014	Over-the-Year Change
Bloomington	5.4%	5.0%	0.4
Carbondale-Marion	6.9%	6.3%	0.6
Champaign-Urbana	5.7%	5.3%	0.4
Chicago-Naperville-Arlington Heights	5.2%	5.8%	-0.6
Danville	7.7%	7.3%	0.4
Davenport-Moline-Rock Island, IA-IL	5.8%	5.8%	0.0
Decatur	7.6%	7.4%	0.2
Elgin	6.1%	5.9%	0.2
Kankakee	7.2%	6.9%	0.3
Lake-Kenosha, IL-WI	5.6%	5.5%	0.1
Peoria	7.1%	6.3%	0.8
Rockford	7.5%	7.2%	0.3
Springfield	5.7%	5.5%	0.2
St. Louis (IL-Section)	6.7%	6.5%	0.2
Illinois Statewide	5.8%	6.0%	-0.2

\* Data subject to revision.

**CHICAGO** – Unemployment rates increased in 12 metro areas, decreased in one and was unchanged in one. Eight metro areas across the state saw job loss compared to a year ago, according to preliminary data released today by the Illinois Department of Employment Security (IDES) and the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS). Not seasonally adjusted data compares November 2015 with November 2014.

Illinois businesses lost jobs in eight metro areas including Carbondale-Marion (-1.8 percent, -1,000), Quad Cities (-1.7 percent, -3,200), and Lake-Kenosha (-1.5 percent, -6,300). Illinois businesses added jobs in six metros, in which the largest increases were seen in: Elgin (+2.0 percent, +5,000), Champaign-Urbana (+1.5 percent, +1,700), Danville (+1.4 percent, +400), and Chicago-Naperville-Arlington Heights Metro Division (+1.3 percent or +46,900). The industry sectors recording job growth in the majority of metros were: Transportation, Warehousing and Public Utilities (nine of 14), Leisure and Hospitality (eight of 14), and Education and Health Services (eight of 14).

“While the increase in unemployment rates will garner most of the headlines, more troubling is Illinois’ extremely low employment growth rate this past year,” said IDES Director Jeff Mays. “Out of 102 counties in Illinois, 96 remain below their pre-recession 2007 peak employment levels.”

The not seasonally adjusted Illinois rate was 5.8 percent in November 2015 and stood at 12.2 percent at its peak in this economic cycle in January 2010. Nationally, the not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 4.8 percent in November and 10.6 percent in January 2010 at its peak. The unemployment rate identifies those who are out of work and looking for work, and is not tied to collecting unemployment insurance benefits.

### Total Nonfarm Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted) – November 2015

Metropolitan Area	November 2015*	November 2014**	Over-the-Year Change
Bloomington MSA	96,400	95,500	900
Carbondale-Marion MSA	55,100	56,100	-1,000
Champaign-Urbana MSA	111,800	110,100	1,700
Chicago-Naperville-Arlington Heights Metro Division	3,672,800	3,625,900	46,900
Danville MSA	29,800	29,400	400
Davenport-Moline-Rock Island MSA	181,400	184,600	-3,200
Decatur MSA	51,000	51,600	-600
Elgin Metro Division	260,000	255,000	5,000
Kankakee MSA	45,900	46,100	-200
Lake-County-Kenosha County Metro Division	400,200	406,500	-6,300
Peoria MSA	179,600	180,100	-500
Rockford MSA	152,300	152,600	-300
Springfield MSA	113,500	112,100	1,400
Illinois Section of St. Louis MSA	230,900	232,000	-1,100
Illinois Statewide	5,989,600	5,953,900	35,700

\*Preliminary \*\*Revised

(continued)

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**Not Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rates  
(percent) for Local Counties and Areas**

	<b>Nov. 2015</b>	<b>Nov. 2014</b>	<b>Over-the- year Change</b>
<b>IL Section of St. Louis</b>	6.7%	6.5%	+0.2%
Bond	5.9%	5.7%	+0.2%
Calhoun	7.4%	7.5%	-0.1%
Clinton	5.0%	4.8%	+0.2%
Jersey	7.1%	6.5%	+0.6%
Macoupin	7.0%	6.6%	-0.4%
Madison	6.7%	6.4%	+0.3%
Monroe	4.7%	4.8%	-0.1%
St. Clair	7.2%	7.1%	+0.1%
<b>Cities:</b>			
Alton	9.4%	9.3%	+0.1%
Belleville	6.9%	7.3%	-0.4%
Collinsville	6.4%	6.5%	-0.1%
East St. Louis	12.8%	12.4%	+0.4%
Granite City	8.7%	8.0%	+0.7%
O'Fallon	6.2%	6.0%	+0.2%
<b>Counties:</b>			
Greene	6.9%	6.1%	+0.8%
Randolph	6.1%	5.9%	+0.2%
Washington	4.3%	4.1%	+0.2%
<b>Other Areas:</b>			
LWA 21	6.9%	6.5%	+0.4%
LWA 22	6.6%	6.4%	+0.2%
LWA 24	6.5%	6.4%	+0.1%
Southwestern Economic Development Region	6.6%	6.4%	+0.2%

**Note:**

- Monthly 2014 unemployment rates and total non-farm jobs for Illinois metro areas were revised in February 2015, as required by the U.S. Dept. of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS). Comments and tables distributed for prior metro area news releases should be discarded as any records or historical analysis previously cited may no longer be valid.
- LWA— Local Workforce Area 21 is composed of Calhoun, Greene, Jersey, Macoupin, Montgomery, Morgan, Scott and Shelby Counties.  
LWA— Local Workforce Area 22 is composed of Bond and Madison Counties.  
LWA— Local Workforce Area 24 is composed of Clinton, Monroe, Randolph, St. Clair and Washington Counties.

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## Metro East Highlights

### Help Wanted

Area employers advertised for 5,800 openings in November and approximately 84 percent sought full-time employment, according to Help Wanted OnLine data compiled by the Conference Board. It is a global, independent business membership and research association. Employers actually need more workers than the help wanted ad indicates because some industries, such as construction, typically do not advertise job openings.

The November 2015 unemployment rate for the Illinois Section of the St. Louis Metropolitan Statistical Area decreased to 6.7 percent, a +0.2 point increase from the November 2014 rate of 6.5 percent. The last time the November unemployment rate was equal to or lower was 2014 (6.5 percent). The data is not seasonally adjusted.

The number of employed individuals increased by 7,866 to 326,565 in November 2015 from 318,699 in November 2014. The labor force increased by 9,031 to 349,905 in November 2015 from 340,874 in November 2014. In November 2015, there were an estimated 23,340 unemployed people in the labor force. This is an increase of 1,165, compared to the November 2014 total unemployed, 22,175.

Over the year, nonfarm payrolls decreased by (-1,100). Employment increased in Mining and Construction (+300) and Transportation, Warehousing and Utilities (+100).

Government (-500) showed the greatest number of job losses over the year. Other declines included Financial Activities (-300), Professional and Business Services (-300), Manufacturing (-100), Retail Trade (-100), Information (-100) and Other Services (-100).

Employment in Wholesale Trade, Educational and Health Services, and Leisure and Hospitality remained stable, with no change reported in November 2015 compared to the November payrolls the prior year.